



SRMT Kawennì:ios

Helping Build a Better Tomorrow

Enniskorwa / March 2009

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Good Words of Welcome,

By the time this newsletter arrives at your home, we will be saying goodbye to winter weather. Soon, spring will officially be here and we can start enjoying longer days and warmer sunshine. As we enter the new season, we can look forward to continuing to work together, make progress and move the community forward.

One issue that has been on everybody's mind is the economy. Luckily, the tribe remains in a strong position, despite the general economy, but we are being mindful of our situation and are careful with tribal resources and are working on developing some opportunities. I and two other members of Tribal Council attended the United Southern and Eastern Tribes (U.S.E.T.) conference in Washington D.C. during the second week of February where tribes were banding together to discuss unified strategies for the economic recovery. Much of the discussion centered on the stimulus package and what is going to be available to tribes.

This month's newsletter features several benchmarks – the Hogansburg- Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department's annual dinner, the 10-year anniversary of the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino and recognition of Lynelle Phillips for 30 years of dedication and service to our community. I was pleased to be part of the fire department's annual dinner and see so many individuals receive recognition for the performance of their duties. They literally risk their lives to protect our community – and do it all as volunteers. The Tribal Council is also proud to support the fire departments.

Ten years of successful gaming is a great reason to celebrate. The casino has reason to be proud of their progress and we need to continue to be supportive of their efforts and achievements. They have a variety of events and promotions planned for the anniversary celebration, so go there and be part of the celebration.

Lynelle Phillips deserves our thanks and gratitude since she demonstrates the caring and compassion that's so important for anybody who works in health care. The fact that she's worked for the tribe, in many different capacities in health services, for 30 years is a testament to her dedication both to our community and to her profession. Please let her know how much you appreciate her dedication.

Nia:wen,
St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Chief
Monica M. Jacobs



Tribe Sponsors PBS Native American Series

The Tribe is partnering with Mountain Lake Public Broadcasting System in sponsoring a year-long program of Native American shows from the Native American Public Television series. The first of the series will air on Sunday, Onerahtókha/April 26th at 1 PM.



WAILA: MAKING THE PEOPLE HAPPY

"Waila, the contemporary dance music of southern Arizona's tribal communities, is often called "chicken scratch." Played at tribal functions, this fun, lively music offers relief from the hardships of reservation life. This program, which tells the story through the Joaquin family's three generations of Waila musicians, explores the relationship the music has on contemporary native family, community, and culture."

<http://www.netaonline.org/>



GALLERY: THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

This show charts the unveiling and dedication of the first Smithsonian museum dedicated exclusively to American Indians. The grand opening of the National Museum of the American Indian coincided with the six-day, outdoor First American Festival and the Native Nations Festival. The colorful opening day began with a Native Nations Procession, the largest gathering of Native peoples in modern history. More than 25,000 American Indians, representing more than 500 tribes and Native communities — from as far north as Alaska to as far south as Chile — participated in this historic event. During the program, the museum's architects, Johnpaul Jones and Lou Weller, discuss the conception and design of the striking building, and landscaping, which was created to resemble a land form shaped by rain, water and nature. Throughout the documentary, American Indians share their thoughts on the importance of the museum, their heritage and passing along traditions to the next generation.

<http://aptonline.org/>



Casino Plans 10th Anniversary Events



By Jay Tarbell,
Director of Casino Marketing

The Akwasasne Mohawk Casino first opened its doors in April of '99 as a casino with limited gaming options, eventually becoming an epicenter for entertainment in the North Country. In 2009, the Akwasasne Mohawk Casino celebrates its 10th year of providing exciting entertainment experiences to its devoted guests and the community. To mark the occasion, the casino has planned several events to thank those who have helped the casino become a successful gaming enterprise.

In honor of the 10th Anniversary, the casino will be celebrating every month, beginning in April with the 10th Anniversary \$10,000 giveaway! Every third Tuesday of the month, the Akwasasne Mohawk Casino will be giving away \$1,000 to 10 special winners as a way of saying, "Thank you for ten years of success." Guests can begin earning entries as early as Monday, March 23rd for the April drawing, which will take place on Tuesday, April 21. This monthly event promises to be quite a celebration that will include live entertainment, food and drink specials and so much more.

"Thank you" is not limited to only casino patrons, but the many individuals who have contributed to this landmark. On Thursday April 9th, The Akwasasne Mohawk Casino and St. Regis Mohawk Tribe will host a multi-Chamber of Commerce event to thank the local and surrounding business community for their support over the years. The casino also has plans on celebrating the ten-year milestone with its employees as they are the foundation for an ever-growing institution within their community.

It's amazing to think that 10 years ago, Akwasasne Mohawk Casino initially offered just a few table games that were played alongside cardboard cutout images of Video Lottery Machines that simply stated, Coming Soon. Now in 2009, the casino has positioned itself as a leading entertainment venue and one of the largest employers in the North Country. The casino features over 1,500 of the latest, most popular slots in the industry, an assortment of table games, and provides a variety of food and beverage options.

Be part of the casino's 10th Anniversary -- help celebrate the Akwasasne Mohawk Casino's success with its employees and all of those who have supported the North Country's "place to be."

HAVFD Holds Annual Banquet

By David Staddon

The Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department (HAVFD) held their annual awards banquet at the Wolf Clan Restaurant on Saturday, Enniska/February 27th. The event was held to recognize community supporters and volunteer firefighters for their accomplishments in 2008. In addition to firefighters and their guests, invited guests were the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne District Chiefs, surrounding fire departments, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's Public Information Office and Franklin County Coordinators. The event began with a social hour, followed by dinner and a ceremony, where recognition awards for the evening were presented.

New members who joined the in 2008 are Mena Cook, Derrick Point, Corey Tarbell, Brandon Swamp, Justin Mitchell, and Kevin Lazore Jr., and Gordon "Waffles" McDonald who will shortly be back on active duty. Special guest Buzz Rouselle was recognized for his long-time service as a founding member of the HAVFD back in 1954.

Rookie of the Year was Randy "Tweety Bird" Mitchell.

Firefighter of the Year: Richard "The Prez" Phillips who has had title of Mr. President for over thirty years.

A Special Appreciation Award was presented to Merlin McDonald who has been a member for over 30 years, joining in 1972.

Fire Chief Norman Peters was named as Officer of the Year.

The Certificate of excellence award went to the crew of Marine Three who conducted a live water rescue on Tsothohrkó:wa/January 6th 2008. Those crew members were Derek Comins, Ben Benedict, Jerome "Moochie" McDonald, and Fort Covington Fire Fighter Tim Webb.



The Captain's Award for station number one went to Derek Comins, for station number two going to Corey Tarbell and for station number three to John Lazore.



In appreciation for making 25% or more of the calls every month Certificates for Monthly Calls were awarded to Ben Benedict, Derek Comins, Andrew Lazore, Kevin Lazore, Mathew Lazore, Philip Lazore, Robert Lazore, Jason McDonald, Merlin McDonald, Randy Mitchell, Richard Phillips, Russell Phillips, Cecil Ransom and Cody Two Bulls. The award for the Top Call Maker went to Randy "Tweety Bird" Mitchell for making 266 out of 329 calls for the year.

Mose McDonald was honored by receiving the Exempt Member of the Year Award. Mose spent 27 years as the organization's treasurer and has been an active member for over 30 years



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A Certificate of Thanks was presented to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council for the assistance in helping obtain two new trucks and support to repair a leaking roof. Fire station number two presented a quilt as a special thanks to Kawehnoke District Chief Cheryl Jacobs from Mohawk Council of Akwesasne for her efforts in acquiring a new fan boat.

The award ceremony was capped off by a slide presentation by Adrian McDonald, highlighting the events of the Hogansburg-Akwesasne Volunteer Fire Department's accomplishments of 2008. Music and dancing followed dinner and the awards ceremony and a good time was had by all.

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On The Road

Chief James Ransom, Chief Monica Jacobs and Sub-Chief Pam Brown travelled to Washington, D.C. for United Southern and Eastern Tribes (USET) Impact Week meetings during the second week in Ennis/February. The focus of Impact week is matching up Tribal and Congressional leadership to discuss concerns regarding pending legislation that may impact Indian Country, regionally and nationally.

USET is a non-profit, inter-tribal organization that collectively represents its member Tribes at the regional and national level. USET has grown to include twenty-five federally recognized Tribes, operating through various workgroups and committees and providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and information amongst Tribes, agencies and governments. USET is dedicated to promoting Indian leadership, improving the quality of life for American Indians, and protecting Indian rights and natural resources on tribal lands. Although its guiding principle is “Strength in Unity”, USET plays a major role in the self-determination of all its member Tribes by working to improve the capabilities of Tribal governments.

New Faces

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Brianna Herne | Early Childhood Development | Substitute |
| Jordan J. Lauzon | SRM Tribal Police | Police Officer |
| Marla Light | Human Services | Prevention Worker |
| Sierra Rourke | Early Childhood Development | Clerical |
| April Seymour | Early Childhood Development | Family Services Worker |

SRMT Kawennìios

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Jobs

Program Manager - Early Childhood Development Program
Head Start Education Coordinator - Early Childhood Development Program
Business Office Data Entry Clerk - IHS Business Office
Housing Services Specialist - Akwesasne Housing Authority
Bingo Floor Sales Clerk - Mohawk Bingo Palace
Bar Back - Akwesasne Mohawk Casino
Beverage Server - Akwesasne Mohawk Casino
Bartender - Akwesasne Mohawk Casino
Technical Support Engineer - Akwesasne Mohawk Casino

Current postings and complete job descriptions are available online at: www.srmt-nsn.gov

Calendar

Onerahtókha/April

4th - Monthly Tribal Meeting - 10 am - Community Building
8th - Burn Permit Application Clinic - 9 am to 3 pm - Community Building
14th - Social Security Administration - 1:30 to 3:30 pm - Tribal Clerks Office
15th - U.S. Passport Clinic - 10 am to 3 pm - By Appointment - Community Building
26th - Mountain Lake PBS Native American Series premiere - 1 pm
Spring Cleanup - Onerahtókha/April 20 to Ohiarí:ha/June 5

Giving Back

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Funeral Donations - 2 recipients | \$ 1,000 |
| Fire Assistance - 3 recipients | 1,500 |
| Sports Teams - 1 recipient | 1,000 |

A Lily Among Thorns

By David Staddon

17th Century Mohawk Woman May Be Canonized as Roman Catholic Saint

A 17th century woman, known as the “Lily of the Mohawks,” is the subject of a new biography. *A Lily Among Thorns: The Mohawk Repatriation of Káteri Tekahkwí:tha* is a bold new book about a saintly Mohawk woman whom the Pope is considering for canonization. The book has the distinction of being written, illustrated, and published by her own Mohawk people. Over three hundred books have been written about Káteri Tekahkwí:tha, but none from the Mohawk perspective.

Four centuries ago European colonists first arrived in Mohawk territory and these early encounters were memorialized by wampum belts. The new book

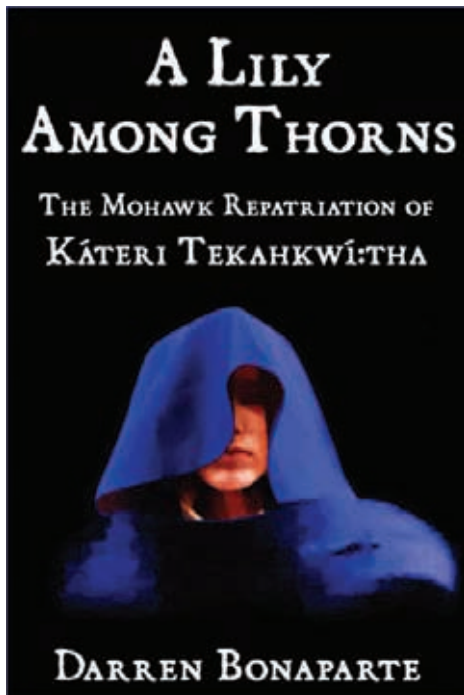
examines controversies surrounding these events by exploring colonists’ written descriptions as they ventured into Mohawk country for diplomacy, trade, warfare and religious conversion. Here we encounter the Blessed Káteri Tekahkwí:tha, whose remarkable life takes over the story.

A Lily Among Thorns looks at the more difficult aspects of this history. Smallpox, wars with other aboriginal nations and internal rifts within the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy are examined and explain why many ancestral Mohawks left the Mohawk Valley for the St. Lawrence. The book features the French invasion of Mohawk Country in 1666, when all Mohawk villages were burned to the ground and played a role in the removal of many Mohawks to the mission village near Montreal.

Illustrations of maps, photographs, and original pen-and-ink drawings show characters and scenes in the book. The portraits were based on modern day Iroquois period-specific clothing and makeup, giving the book a greater authenticity. They were drawn by noted artist R. Kakwirakeron Montour of Kahnawà:ke.

“We are pleased and proud that this new book has been published,” noted Tribal Chief Barbara Lazore. “Telling our histories from our own perspective is important to making sure that events are accurately portrayed. This is one of the reasons that the tribe provided financial support for the publication of Darren’s new book.”

This is the second book by Darren Bonaparte, author of *Creation & Confederation: The Living History of the Iroquois*. He has written for *Indian Country Today*, *Aboriginal Peoples*, and *Native Americas* and serves as a historical advisor for PBS documentaries.



A Lily Among Thorns can be purchased in local stores or online at kateri.org or amazon.com. For more information on author Darren Bonaparte and his published works go to: www.wampumchronicles.com

Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club

By Myra LaFrance

The Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club mission is “To offer all Club Members opportunities and guidance to achieve their fullest potential.” The club has been in operation at the Rooseveltown location for the last six and one-half years. In this time the club has undergone many changes and has grown immensely.

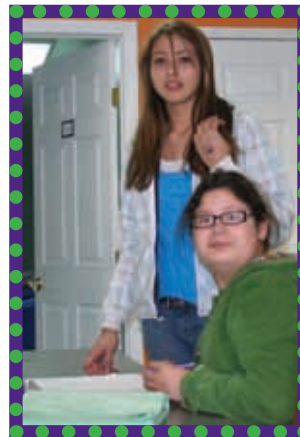
The club has recently hired many new staff and are now partnering up with many different local organizations and volunteers to offer new and exciting programming. Some of these partnering organizations include St. Lawrence University, Let's Get Healthy Program, Clarkson University, SUNY Canton, the Girl Scouts, and the Johnson-O'Malley education (JOM) program.

Our club is a safe and fun place for youth to go after school from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Mondays through Fridays. We provide daily opportunities to meet the physical, emotional, cultural, social, and educational needs of youth ages 6-20. The club works to bring in speakers and conduct field trips to provide members the opportunity to experience different cultures and ways of life. When students come to the club, the staff work hard to ensure that members are engaged, having fun and, above all else, are safe and cared for. The club continues to provide programs in the following core areas: Education & Career Development, Character and Leadership Development, Technology, Health and Life Skills, Arts and Culture, and Sports and Recreation. Members are also treated to a nutritious hot meal through our Child and Adult Food Service Program.

The club doesn't just run from 3:00-7:00, but helps students over the age of 17 obtain GEDs. Classes are offered on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The program has experienced tremendous success and the club is happy to assist the community in meeting this need. New this year, we have teamed up with the JOM program to offer the Homework Club with Joey Phillips and Ryan Jacobs, Mondays through Thursdays 7:00 PM. to 9:00 PM. Participation in the homework club has increased greatly and we are hoping to help even more students in the next couple of months.



We welcome you to come and visit the Club and to see first-hand the work we do here. The Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club can be reached at 518-358-9911.



Forestry Update

By Les Benedict

New Season of Chipping Begins

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Environment Division, Forestry Resources Program has been busy this winter and plans for a busier spring and summer. The Tribe's Axe Men this year are Patrick Kelly, Forestry Technician, and Corey Oakes and Leo Fox, Forestry Laborers.

The crew is working on black ash restoration to improve timber stands. The crew has focused efforts on a black ash stand at a site off Chapman road in partnership with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. The project also provides firewood for community members. With high heating costs, the firewood is a plus to the restoration project.

Last spring and summer the crew removed downed trees and limbs at community members' homes. This year the clean-up is expected to begin in Onerahtokha/April and Onerahtokko:wa/May. The service is available to all Tribal members on the US side of Akwesasne, but a permission/waiver form must be completed and submitted to the Environment Division. Priority is given to Elders and disabled followed by first-come, first-served so fill out your form as soon as possible.

This year, we will again conduct Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) operations. WUI involves the removal of fuels that might contribute to brush

fires, including dead and down trees and brush/grass at homes, businesses and critical facilities. Priority is given to Elders, disabled, community facilities, businesses and then first-come, first-serve. Areas must be located on the US side of Akwesasne and a permission/waiver form is required.

Forestry Resources is also developing a reservation Forest Management Plan based on an inventory conducted in 2003 and 2004. The inventory was created with several community members' assistance, permitting the Forestry Resources Program to measure their trees. The Environment Division is interested in making further measurements and needs the help and cooperation of the community. If you would like to participate in the inventory update, please contact Forestry Resources.

Community members should understand that the Forestry Resources program is a service for them. If they have any questions or concerns about

resources, tree health or need assistance with their forest, contact Forestry Resources. We can help community members learn about opportunities to improve tree health, wildlife habitat and timber stand production.

For information call: Patrick Kelly, Forestry Technician, (518) 358-5937, X 137.



The Axe Men L-R: Scott Peters, MCA, Corey Oakes and Leo Fox, SRMT Forestry Laborers and Patrick Kelly, SRMT Forestry Technician

Official Tribal Monthly Meeting

March 7, 2009

Chaired by Chief Monica M. Jacobs



1. Opening Greetings & Welcome - Reading of Action item(s) from last meeting
2. Ordinances - Katrina Jacobs and Danielle Thompson
 - Election & Referendum Ordinance
 - Animal Control Ordinance
 - Land Dispute Resolution Ordinance
3. Stimulus Package Update - Jamie Bay
4. Governance Committee Update
5. New Business
6. Review of Action Items - Tribal Clerk
7. Closing Adjournment

Action items:

1. Provide a date when the Tribal Budget will be ready for the community to vote on.
2. Provide Statistical data on maintaining specific projects once the initial stimulus is gone.
3. Ask Steve Cook (Economic Development) to do a presentation on the hiring of native employees for Tribal projects.
4. Extend an invitation to Steve Cook (Economic Development) to attend April's monthly meeting- if he's available.
5. To have the TGF budget published and available.
6. To vote on the acceptance of the Tribal monthly meeting minutes at the beginning of the following month's meeting.



Action Item Follow-Up from February Tribal Meeting

1. Set up a meeting with manager of IGA to discuss a plan of action to reduce losses.

A special meeting with the Manager of the IGA to review his plan of action is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25th at 2 p.m.

2. Do an investigation on the land owner of the Route 37 reclamation site parcel including a title search.

The legal department is ordering a complete abstract on the Route 37 property.

3. Provide information on how the international border was established.

The legal department is providing a hand out on the border at the March 7, 2009 Tribal Meeting.

4. Provide amount of money spent on travel by Tribal Council.

A travel report will be made available as a handout at the monthly meetings.

Owera' shon: a (The Winds) **To Burn or Not To Burn**

By Angela Benedict-Dunn

Believe it or not, SPRING is coming! And what that means is that people are going to want to clean up their yards and start burning unwanted yard waste. Well, as many of you may know, a burn regulation is in place. The regulation helps educate the community on the effects of burning, whether it is branches, paper materials or garbage.

The regulation has a permit component to it; in order to burn a permit is required. The process for obtaining a permit is fairly easy and doesn't cost a thing. The reason behind having a permit system is so that people are aware of how to conduct a proper burn. You are probably thinking, "What's there to know? You make a pile and light it with a match." Sometimes it is not that easy. I have seen piles as big as a house or filled with clothes, garbage and propane tanks. Okay, back to the process; we have a form that needs to be filled out with your name and the location of the burn, then our air technician will call you and make an appointment to come out and inspect the pile. We also have a guideline brochure and a video to help educate on proper burning. The video can be seen in the tribal lobby or sometime during the permit process we will ask you to watch it. The brochures are available anytime at the Tribe's Environment Division. Once the inspection is done the permit application goes back to the Environment Division for signatures and after it is signed the permit will be issued.

Reading the back of the permit is important because it states that if the fire gets out of hand and the fire department

has to be called, you are responsible for reimbursing the costs of the response. It also states that someone must supervise the burn and it is to be put out before dark.

Now you are probably asking yourself, "Does that mean I need a permit to have a bonfire with my family and friends?" This is an exception where a permit is not required. The guidelines brochure has a complete list but here are some examples: outdoor cooking, fires for warmth, ceremonial fires (for example, for sweatlodges). Onerahtokha/April 8th, the air program will be set up in the lobby of the Tribal Community Building to hand out permit applications, give out the brochures and show the video. Copies of the video will be available.

Since the forestry program will offer chipping again this year, consider this option instead of burning your branches and trees. Look for more information on dates in the newspapers, in this newsletter and on CKON.

As for your garbage, you should never burn it. Not only does it smell bad, but it harms the developing lungs of our children and makes it hard for our people to breathe and introduces toxic chemicals into their system. The solid waste program has a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) system in place for roadside pickup. At \$2 a bag you can't beat the price (sold in lots of 5-\$10.00). And when you reduce-reuse-recycle the amount of trash you have is drastically reduced, therefore making it less expensive.

What a burn pile should NOT look like:



If you have any questions, or would like to get a burn permit application, please contact us at 358-5937.

The idea of this column is to promote clean air practices in each of our homes, in our personal behaviors throughout each day, in line with our Mohawk cultural value system. In no way is this column meant to be an indictment of anything that you choose to do. Instead, this is in place as a simple thought-provoking tool, to reveal some good ideas and some interesting notions.

Please present any comments, complaints, or questions to Angela Benedict-Dunn, Air Quality Manager or Ken Jock, Environment Division Director. We welcome your thoughts and opinions.

30 Years of Satisfaction

By David Staddon

Lynelle Phillips

Lynelle Phillips is celebrating 30 years of service with the Tribe in her capacity as a nurse in Health Services. After attending Canton Agricultural and Technical College, she went to Plattsburgh State and spent three years in Casper Wyoming before starting to work for the tribe in 1978 as a graduate nurse. She worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) for two years, then took board exams to be a registered nurse (RN) and been working in that capacity ever since.

"I've seen a lot of changes and have had a lot of different supervisors over the years." In the early days, we employed a lot of specialists on a part time basis under contract through Health Services. Now the clinic employs Dr. Kelley as a physician on a full-time basis. He is a Mohawk tribal member and a graduate of the Harvard School of Medicine.

Lynelle worked as a Clinic Coordinator for nine years and helped plan the layout and equipment of the current health services building. This position also included supervising the nursing staff.

After that, she was looking for a change, so she moved to the Outreach Department for eight years as Maternal Child/Community Health Nurse and was also Immunization Coordinator for the site. She also did Home Health Care and delivering direct services.

Lynelle engages in training on a regular basis because advances in technology have dictated so many changes in how health care services are delivered. "I wasn't brought up

with computers, but I'm trying hard," she said, laughing. "I'm now developing and running a central registry of patient files, so when a patient goes to receive health care services anywhere in New York, their health records will be available to the local health care provider

Currently working as the Outreach Supervisor, she is responsible for the work of LPNs, RNs, Community Health Representatives (CHRs) in the areas of community health and prevention. "I don't consider myself to be their boss – I'm their coach and facilitator," she stated. "We all believe in the teamwork concept and it's a concept I strongly support." Lynelle still serves as the Immunization Coordinator.

"After all these years, I'm still optimistic that positive change is always possible. We have a lot of young people coming up who have a lot of good ideas."

"Right now we have a shortage of nurses, especially Native nurses, so this is a good opportunity for young people considering a career in medicine or health services," she noted. "The other opportunity is to be able to give back to the community. I love working for my community because it's all one big family. Working here is very rewarding and these are the reasons I've stayed here so long."

Lynelle is married to Vaughn Phillips, has two sons, ages 20 and 21, a daughter of 31 as well as a stepdaughter, 18 and a stepson, 16. She has a big Mohawk family and spends a lot of time at the many family events. She also enjoys gardening, grows both vegetables and flowers and enjoys good fishing right behind her house.



WIC NEWS

| 2009 Income Guidelines | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|
| Household size | Annual | Monthly | Weekly |
| 1 | \$19,240 | \$1,604 | \$370 |
| 2 | \$25,900 | \$2,159 | \$499 |
| 3 | \$32,560 | \$2,714 | \$627 |
| 4 | \$39,220 | \$3,269 | \$755 |
| 5 | \$45,880 | \$3,824 | \$883 |
| 6 | \$52,540 | \$4,379 | \$1,011 |
| 7 | \$59,200 | \$4,934 | \$1,139 |
| 8 | \$65,860 | \$5,489 | \$1,267 |
| For Each Additional Member add: | \$6,660 | \$555 | \$129 |

Farmers Market Vendors Needed

To qualify, we need 2-3 individuals that grow their own fresh produce and would be willing to apply for a WIC check stamp. The Farmers Market is tentatively scheduled for Fridays from 12:30 to 4:30 pm.

Annual Wellness Day

The Health Promotion /Disease and Injury Prevention Committee is looking for individuals, programs and businesses to reserve a table for this years Wellness Day. It will be held on August 6th, 2009 at the First Americans IGA.

Please call the WIC Office at 518-358-3141 ext. 131 for more information on the WIC program or events.

IGA DISCOUNT

Akwesasro:non and employees of the St Regis Mohawk Tribe, Akwesasne Mohawk Casino and Mohawk Bingo Palace can receive a 5% discount on most purchases at the First Americans IGA.

Bring your Tribal, Band, Nation or employee ID card to the service desk and receive your discount card. Discount applies to grocery, dollar store, Charley Biggs and Quiznos purchases.

Exclusions: SRMT solid waste blue bags, phone cards and services such as UPS, rug doctor rentals, propane, video rentals, fax and copies.

POKER TOURNEY

The Mohawk Bingo Palace is holding a *Charity No Limit Texas Hold'em Tournament* for the Early Childhood Development Program (ECDP).

The tournament is scheduled for Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 2:00pm. There is a \$90 Buy-In, \$35 to Charity, \$10 for seat fee with a \$90 Freeze out. No re-buys or add-ons. Guests must be 18 years old to participate.

The ECDP empowers families and enriches the growth and development of children, including those with disabilities as young as six (6) weeks. The ECDP provides developmentally appropriate activities and services through five components:

- child care center
- head start center
- home-based child care
- child care subsidy
- resource and referral

2009 Is the Year for...

By Laura Weber

The Tribe's solid waste program has been in existence since 1998. Since the program is over ten years old, 2009 is the year for review and training. The solid waste program is committed to serving the community and offering the best services. "We strive for excellence," says Laura Weber, Program Manager, "evaluating our program and providing training are keys for successful program execution."

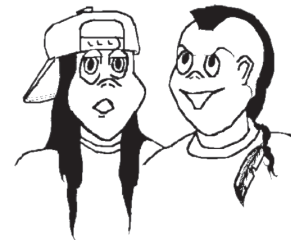


Training allows the solid waste team to provide the best possible service to the community. The team has been working together to develop a team-building process that helps them become a high performance team.

The mission of the solid waste program is to promote environmental protection through the use of sound solid waste management practices while contributing to the economic and social progress of the community. A solid waste management plan has been executed to guide the program's activities in achieving their mission. This plan uses a model based on 5 components for execution. A review committee is evaluating the solid waste management plan to determine if program adjustments are needed to make the program more successful.

The team is developing a team-building handbook in addition to participating in a ½ day workshop on Ennisko:wa/ March 26. The program decided

to close the transfer station at 11 AM on the 26th so that all of the team members can attend this workshop, which is being held at the Environment Division's conference room. The training is being provided by a consultant who will lead the team in several team-building activities.



Mark on Your Calendar: Spring Cleanup
Onerahtokha/April 20 to Ohiari:ha/June 5.
More Information to Follow.

TALKIN' TRASH

U.S. Passport Clinic

Wednesday, Onerahtókha/April 15, 2009

10 am to 3 pm

Franklin County Clerk, Wanda Murtagh will be processing applications for new and renewal passport books and/or cards.

Appointments will be accepted by the Public Information Office at 518-358-2272 ext. 284 or 285.

Application forms are available in the lobby of the Community Building. Additional information about acceptable documentation is available online at www.travel.state.gov.

If you have specific documentation questions, please call Ms. Murtagh at 518-481-1681.

PASSPORT CLINIC

In the Neighborhood



U.S. Census workers are visiting our area to identify the addresses of all housing units for the 2010 Census.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS
www.census.gov/2010census

Safe. Easy. Important.

St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
412 State Route 37
Akwasasne, NY 13655

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